

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATION

Original Supplemental Substitute PCT Design

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint Inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

RARE EARTH HYDROXIDE AND METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF

of which is described and claimed in:

- (X) the attached specification, or
 () the specification in the application Serial No. _____ filed _____;
 and with amendments through _____ (if applicable), or
 () the specification in International Application No. PCT/_____, filed _____, and as amended
 on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the content of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above.

I acknowledge my duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 (and §172 if this application is for a Design) of any application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

| COUNTRY | APPLICATION NO. | DATE OF FILING | PRIORITY CLAIMED |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Japan | 2000-243354 | August 10, 2000 | YES |
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| APPLICATION SERIAL NUMBER | U.S. FILING DATE | STATUS: PATENTED, PENDING, ABANDONED |
|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
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And I hereby appoint John T. Miller, Reg. No. 21,120; Michael R. Davis, Reg. No. 25,134; Matthew M. Jacob, Reg. No. 25,154; Jeffrey Nolton, Reg. No. 25,408; Warren M. Cheek, Jr., Reg. No. 33,367; Nils E. Pedersen, Reg. No. 33,145 and Charles R. Watts, Reg. No. 33,142, who together constitute the firm of WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L. L. P., attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby authorize the U. S. attorneys named herein to accept and follow instructions from _____ as to any action to be taken in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U. S. Attorneys and myself. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U. S. attorneys named herein will be so notified by me.

Send correspondence to:

Direct Telephone Calls To:

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L. L. P.
2033 K Street, N. W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L. L. P.
Area Code (202) 721-8200

Direct Facsimile Messages to:
Area Code (202) 721-8250

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|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Full Name of First Inventor | FAMILY NAME TAKAI | FIRST GIVEN NAME Yasushi | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
| Residence & Citizenship | CITY Fukui-ken | STATE OR COUNTRY Japan | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan |
| Post Office Address | c/o Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd., 1-5, Kitago 2-chome, Takefu-shi, Fukui-ken, Japan | | |
| Full Name of Second Inventor | FAMILY NAME TSUKATANI | FIRST GIVEN NAME Toshihiko | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
| Residence & Citizenship | CITY Fukui-ken | STATE OR COUNTRY Japan | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan |
| Post Office Address | c/o Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd., 1-5, Kitago 2-chome, Takefu-shi, Fukui-ken, Japan | | |
| Full Name of Third Inventor | FAMILY NAME | FIRST GIVEN NAME | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
| Residence & Citizenship | CITY | STATE OR COUNTRY | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP |
| Post Office Address | | | |
| Full Name of Fourth Inventor | FAMILY NAME | FIRST GIVEN NAME | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
| Residence & Citizenship | CITY | STATE OR COUNTRY | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP |
| Post Office Address | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Full Name of Fifth Inventor | FAMILY NAME | FIRST GIVEN NAME | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
| Residence & Citizenship | CITY | STATE OR COUNTRY | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP |
| Post Office Address | | | |
| Full Name of Sixth Inventor | FAMILY NAME | FIRST GIVEN NAME | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
| Residence & Citizenship | CITY | STATE OR COUNTRY | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP |
| Post Office Address | | | |
| Full Name of seventh Inventor | FAMILY NAME | FIRST GIVEN NAME | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
| Residence & Citizenship | CITY | STATE OR COUNTRY | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP |
| Post Office Address | | | |

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

1st Inventor Yasushi Takai Date July 9, 2001
 2nd Inventor Toshihiko Tsukatani Date July 9, 2001
 3rd Inventor _____ Date _____
 4th Inventor _____ Date _____
 5th Inventor _____ Date _____
 6th Inventor _____ Date _____
 7th Inventor _____ Date _____

The above application may be more particularly identified as follows:

U. S. Application Serial No. _____ Filing Date _____
 Applicant reference Number _____ Atty Docket No. _____
 Title of Invention _____